

Environment Committee

Meeting date: March 8, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 23, 2022

Subject: Joint Powers Agreement with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program, Contract 17G000

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Procurement Policy – 3-4-3, Minnesota Statutes 473.505 (Total Watershed Management) & 471.59 Joint Exercise of Powers

Staff Prepared/Presented: Daniel Henely, 651-602-8085; Judy Sventek 651-602-1156

Division/Department: MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment of contract 17G000 with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to extend termination date to 12/31/2022 and accept Clean Water Funds from the Minnesota Legislature in the amount of up to \$100,000.

Background

The original joint powers agreement for 2018-2019 included \$300,000 for Metropolitan Council reimbursement on eligible expenses. It was amended for 2020-2021 to add \$238,500. This amendment will roll over un-used monies from that original agreement and subsequent amendment and add up to \$100,000 for 2022 for a total amount in grant funds of up to \$638,500. The amendment allows Environmental Services to continue the monitoring of 6 tributary stream and river segments in the Council's Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program.

Rationale

Council policy requires that joint powers agreements in any amount be approved by the Council. MCES has been partnering with local governments and watershed management organizations to monitor the water quality of local streams since 1995. This request will continue funding for this program through 12/31/2022.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This program and funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency support work to keep our water resources sustainable for future generations and improve the livability and attractiveness of our region. Local watershed and community partners use information generated from these stations to target and improve water management practices on the ground and measure the success of their projects.

Funding

The source of the funding is the Clean Water Funds passed through the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to the Council. The eligibility of reimbursements is based on a workplan that outlines tasks negotiated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Metropolitan Council.

Known Support / Opposition

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency supports this project with designated Clean Water Funds from the Minnesota Legislature. There is no known opposition to this action.